

## The Hotel Astor

was opened on September 1, 1904, and has done a large business from the first day, increasing so much as to compel an enlargement of the house by the addition of 500 more rooms and baths.

**ITS LOCATION** is the most central in New York; within a few blocks of the New York Central and the new Pennsylvania Railroad depots; within one block of the 42d Street Subway station, which, with the car lines in front, enable our guests to reach any part of the city. While facing Broadway (Times Square) it has the further advantage of being located on two quiet streets (44th and 45th), besides overlooking the beautiful Hudson River and the Palisades on the west side. One can enjoy lively Broadway and yet have absolute quiet within one's room.

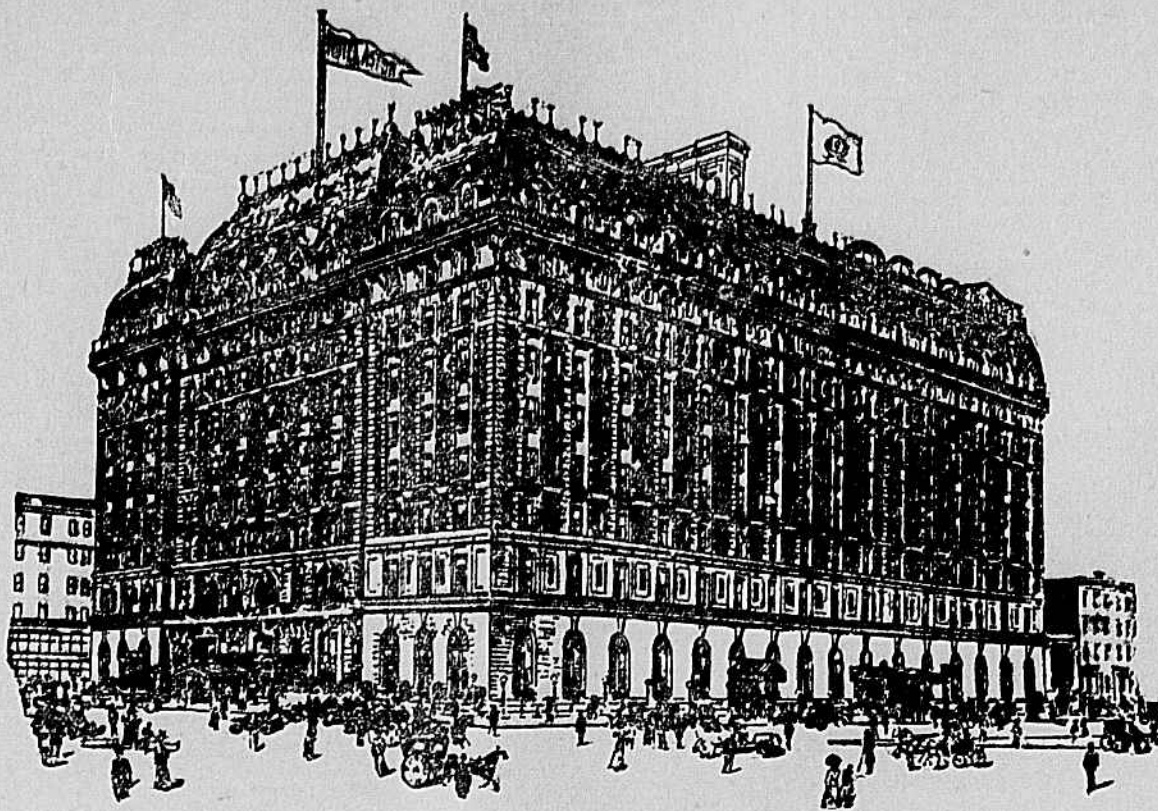
**The Equipment** is of the very best, the furnishings being the most elegant obtainable. All the modern appliances known, besides some of our own inventions, were installed regardless of cost, and the service thereby brought to a high state of efficiency. Nothing is missing in our rooms that the human mind so far has devised to make the guest comfortable. Famous men and women have again and again commented on the homelike atmosphere that prevails in every part of the **HOTEL ASTOR**.

**TWELVE ELEVATORS** run from cellar to roof, besides eight others that run part of that distance.

**THE ENTERTAINMENTS** (as many as 30 different functions taking place every day) are a great attraction to the visitor seated in the spacious lobby or corridors. Banquets, Dances, Concerts, Weddings, Bazaars, Exhibitions, Lectures, etc., take place from morning till night.

**THE GRANDE PROMENADE** on the ground floor, 600 feet in length and lined with fine furniture, circles around the famous Orangerie and the Grand Ball Room, and on the other side passes numberless beautiful rooms, such as the **LAUREL ROOM** and **ROSE ROOM** and the **CONSERVATORY** with its fine statuary.

**ON THE BALCONY** another Promenade of the same length offers a bird's-eye view of the panorama below.



Wm. C. Muschenheim

## THIS HOUSE HAS RECENTLY BEEN ENLARGED AND NOW HAS OVER 1000 SALONS, BED CHAMBERS AND BATHS

Single Rooms With Bath, \$3.50 to \$7.00; Double, \$4.50 to \$10  
Single Rooms Without Bath, \$2.50 to \$5.00; Double, \$3.50 to \$6  
En Suite: Parlor, Bedroom and Bath, from \$10.00 upward

### PICTORIAL LITERATURE

describing in more detail all the features of the Hotel will gladly be mailed to those desiring it. One folder in particular contains 25 pictures in color of the many interesting public rooms of the house.

**THE GREAT ORCHESTRA ORGAN**, the largest in existence (102 speaking stops) and really representing four independent organs distributed equally along the great corridor and played either from one console or separately, makes this Grande Promenade a most unique feature.

**AT 5 O'CLOCK TEA** the matinee-goer and the women's club member, the suffragette, as well as the lady returning from a shopping tour, make this Hotel a rendezvous to sip a cup of tea and partake of a muffin, or take a stroll in the Promenade and enjoy the wonderful Organ Recital.

**AFTER THEATER** no one would think of going home without stopping at the **ASTOR** for supper, especially since the taxi enables nonresidents of the Hotel to reach home very quickly.

**THE GRAND BALL ROOM**, really a Golden Court, has, besides 80 boxes in two tiers, also a complete stage which can be raised or lowered, according to requirements, by powerful machinery. Below the ceiling is a canopy of solid bronze (weighing 30 tons) concealing the electric lights and producing light effects never before accomplished. The statuary, by Isidore Konti, and the mural paintings, by E. H. Unitt, help to make perfect this Twentieth Century wonder. It was in this hall that the celebrated **HUDSON-FULTON** Banquet was held last September, attended by the representatives of 27 foreign nations, and numbering altogether 2,100 guests.

**THE ROOF GARDEN** is the largest and most artistic in the world, covering 28 city lots. Its beautiful lighting effects, Fountains and Cascades, Pergolas and "Nooks and Corners" make this roof a veritable Fairyland. The **BELVEDERE** at the extreme western end is a Restaurant de Luxe, which offers a seating capacity for 1,000 persons. Three orchestras furnish the music in this vast parklike paradise.

**THE KITCHEN** is the largest and conceded to be the best planned and equipped of any hotel in the world and is worthy of an inspection. It is, therefore, no wonder that the **COUSINE** of the **ASTOR** is renowned and unsurpassed.

**THE WINE VAULTS** are also a great show place, both for their architectural features and the rare vintages stored here from every part of the globe. Several hundred thousand bottles are stored here, many of them covered with cobwebs, an indication of their old age, a picture apt to enthuse the connoisseur.

## News of Petersburg

**Times-Dispatch Bureau.**  
109 North Sycamore Street,  
Petersburg, Va., February 20.  
Some of the accounts of the arrest and alleged confessions of the Seylar brothers, the alleged Atlantic City murderers, in this city, published in Northern papers, and evidently manufactured to kill space, were in the highest degree exaggerated and without foundation. No confession was made here by either of the Seylars, both denying knowledge of the death of Miss Jane Adams, though the younger brother contradicted the denial of the elder that he was with Miss Adams the night of her disappearance, and did not hesitate to declare this very material fact.

And then, too, Chief of Police Ragland makes positive denial of the published statement attributed to him that a woman going by the name of Mary Hamilton called on him and declared that she is the wife of William Seylar, having married him in the summer of 1902, when he was twenty-one years of age, and is now a woman called on him, and that he made no such statement. He denies having said that if the woman could produce a marriage certificate a charge of bigamy would be preferred against William Seylar.

When Seylar lived in Petersburg some years ago he was associated with a woman of questionable character, who has long since disappeared from these parts. Much of the sensational matter of the untrue character has been published.

**Commission Government for Cities.**  
A board of control, or a commission form of government, for the city of Petersburg was a subject brought before the Chamber of Commerce at its big meeting held Friday night, and from that time forth it was received with favor. It was judged that the chamber is heartily in favor of the constitutional amendments proposed, to allow cities, if they so desire, to change their government to that of a commission form. It may be said that Petersburg was the first city in the State to move in this matter, and the Council have formally requested its representatives in the General Assembly to aid in securing the proper legislation to give the cities such option.

The Petersburg Investment Corporation has made a proposition to the city to buy the almshouse tract, a large and desirable farm, with the view to its improvement as residential property, and to build a boulevard along its front, extending to the southern limits of the city. The Chamber of Commerce is asked to assist in this matter. Whether the city will sell is a matter of doubt, as the Council are now considering the expenditure of a large sum of money in the improvement of that property.

**Railroad Trespassers.**  
Henry Austin, negro, was sent to the Hastings Court to be tried on the charge of so damaging a freight train on the Norfolk and Western Railway as to threaten danger of wreck. He tampered with the steam air brake.

A wee bit of a negro boy, John Stewart, eight or ten years, was charged with a life offense in the Police Court. He was too young to be sent to jail, and the justice compromised on a good whipping for him.

**Miscellaneous News.**  
From the glimmer of a candle to the brilliant glow of the are light was the figure described by President Heath, of the Chamber of Commerce, in referring to the unprecedented advance in prosperity of the city of Petersburg during the past few years.

W. E. Baugh and Harry Hartwell, tax assessors for Dinwiddie county, have been at work for some time in the city, and it is expected that the assessments of property so far show fully 25 per cent. increase over the present assessed value.

The sales of loose tobacco at the weekly market aggregated 297,965 pounds, making total sales for the season 2,365,280 pounds.

A well-known citizen of Dinwiddie said that there is not a piece of property in the county, if put up at public sale to-day, but would bring twice its assessed value.

Mrs. Mary A. Rawlings, aged seventy-six years, died Friday night at her residence on Adams Street.

The citizens of Ettrick are asking the influence of the Chamber of Commerce in having the Virginia Railway and Power Company extend its old street line into that village.

**WEST VIRGINIAN HELD ON SERIOUS CHARGES.**  
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Pocahontas, Va., February 20.—William Ford, alias John Freeman, was arrested here yesterday for highway robbery and assault, by City Sergeant George W. Mays. Freeman cut the throat and robbed J. E. Sea, at Sanford, Raleigh county, Va., several weeks ago. Sea had on his person \$25 when robbed.

Freeman has been working here in the mines for some time, and has been corresponding with his wife in West Virginia, and it was through the post-office people here and the assistance of Homer P. Brennerman, the assistant postmaster, that Freeman was captured.

His wife arrived here and was met by her husband, and while the meeting of man and wife was taking place the officers arrested him. He confessed and was taken to Beckley, the county seat of Raleigh, by Deputy Sheriff Henry Lemon.

## ORATORS PREPARE FOR FINAL HONORS

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
West Raleigh, N. C., February 20.—There will be a preliminary contest for the selection of commencement orators of the senior class some time within the next month.

The League Literary Society will hold its annual banquet at Gierche's Hotel next Saturday night. Among the invited guests are Josephus Daniel, Ex-Governor Aycock, Dr. D. H. Hill and Dr. T. P. Harrison, professor of English, who will deliver short addresses. The banquet committee is composed of L. P. McLendon, G. R. Ross and T. H. Thompson.

The third entertainment of the college lyceum course was given in Pullen Hall Saturday night, under the management of the Alkabet Lyceum System, of Atlanta, by Reno B. Wellborn.

J. R. Mullens, of Charlotte, N. C., was called home on Friday on account of the death of his father.

The senior class has elected the following marshals for commencement: J. M. Biel, "11, chief; G. W. Gillette, "11; D. R. Hinkle, "11; W. H. Graham, Jr., "12; F. R. Baldwin, Jr., "12; J. B. May, "13 and J. L. McCallum, "12.

Dr. Holmes, of the State Geological and economic survey, delivered two addresses before the agricultural students on Thursday and Friday. His subjects being "Forestry, Protection" and "Forestry Utilization."

## THREE FAILURES IN NORTHERN NECK

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Lancaster, Va., February 20.—Three disastrous business failures have recently occurred in Richmond county, the first being that of J. H. Milson, a prominent druggist and business man of Warsaw, who has been put in bankruptcy by his creditors. His unsecured liabilities are estimated at \$77,000, with available assets amounting to only \$2,700. Mr. Milson's failure is said to have been caused by unfortunate speculation in canned tomatoes. J. H. Hamblin, also of Richmond county, has been put in bankruptcy by his creditors, with liabilities amounting to \$9,700, and assets, \$6,600. A meeting of the representatives of the creditors of these men was held recently at Warsaw, when C. A. Cardwell, assignee in bankruptcy, was present. Among the lawyers from a distance were H. M. Smith, of Richmond, and W. H. Yeaton, of the Armour Fertilizer Works. Colonel E. Hugh Smith was appointed trustee for Mr. Milson, and Asa S. Rice, trustee for Mr. Hamblin.

The third failure is that of John A. Brockenbrough, who for a number of years has been doing a general merchandise business at Warsaw, and has just made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. A. N. Wellford being named an assignee. The liabilities and assets are not stated.

A number of educational meetings will be held during the coming week in the three lower counties of the Northern Neck. J. S. Thomas, State supervisor of primary schools, will deliver three addresses in Richmond county during the first part of the week. Next Friday the Teachers' Association of Northumberland county

will hold a meeting at Wicomico Church, when a large crowd of teachers and patrons of the schools will be present. Addresses and lectures will be delivered by State Supervisor Thomas, Robert Lee Blanton, editor of the Virginia Journal of Education, and Mrs. Daniel Warwick Read, State supervisor of drawing, and on the following day the same speakers will address the Lancaster Teachers' Association at Lancaster Court-house.

The bank at Heathsville heretofore operated as a part of the L. E. Mumford Company banking system, has been taken out of that system, and will hereafter be known as the Bank of Northumberland, with the following officers: Giles F. Eubank, president; J. M. Booth, vice-president; Charles E. Stirling, cashier; Directors—Giles F. Eubank, J. M. Booth, Randolph S. Brent, Asa S. Rice, E. Hugh Smith, R. E. Booker, Gordon Blundin, George D. Shirley, W. Andrew Jones.

The newly organized People's Bank at Freeville, recently taken out of the Mumford system, will begin business to-morrow.

T. Dorsey Fieldin, commercial traveler, whose home is at Litwiltown, in this county, and Miss Edith Laura Armstrong, were recently married at Relay, Md., and are now spending their honeymoon in Florida.

Lyell McKenney, a young merchant doing business at Brookvale, near here, and Miss Addie P. Lowery, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. O. Lowery, of this county, were married Wednesday evening at the home of the bride's parents in the presence of the members of the two families, the Rev. W. A. Ware, of the Methodist Church, performing the ceremony.

News comes from Weems in the lower part of Lancaster of the death of Mrs. Charlotte Damerd in the seventy-eighth year of her age.

William H. Hundley, second son of Captain and Mrs. J. W. Hundley, of Irvington, died several days ago at the home of his parents. He was the thirtieth year of his age. He had been an usually strong and healthy

young man, having never been sick a day in his life till he was stricken down about two weeks ago with pneumonia. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows and also of the Junior Order of American Mechanics. His remains were interred in the cemetery of the White Stone Baptist Church, according to the rites of these two orders.

**ALLEGED HORSE THIEF ESCAPES FROM JAIL.**  
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Floyd, Va., February 20.—Lee Dickerson, who was indicted at this time of the court for horse stealing, took "leg bail" late last night, and his whereabouts is unknown.

The jailer, after giving the prisoners' supper, returned to the jail to lock them in for the night and found Dickerson gone, while the doors to the corridor and outside were unlocked.

Dickerson must have escaped by means of a key and with the help of friends from the outside.

The telephone wires were cut to the railroad and other important points, and it was impossible to trace him until a late hour to-day.

**News of Eastern Shore.**  
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Onancock, Va., February 20.—Fire started by sparks falling on the roof destroyed the dwelling and outbuildings of Alfred W. James last night. The fire had made such headway when discovered that very little furniture was saved. The loss is estimated at \$2,500, with no insurance.

In the case of George S. Mason against the Baltimore, Chesapeake and Atlantic Railway Company, heard at the present term of court, in which the plaintiff sued for injury sustained by falling through the wall at Cedar View, the jury found for the plaintiff, and assessed his damages at \$500.

The Brick House home, in Belle Haven, with 150 acres of land, was sold on Saturday for \$18,650 to Dr. S. Sidney Kellam.

There were four and on Wednesday of last week Cove City District and Maple Cypress District both voted for local tax by a good majority. At present there are a number of petitions up for local taxes in other districts.

S. R. Mathes, of Norfolk, Va., has been appointed master in chancery at Newbern for the Norfolk and Southern Railway. On the same day that Mr. Mathes took charge the company cut the time of the men in the shop from fifty-five to forty hours per week. It being stated that the shop appropriation had been cut \$500 a month, and thus it was necessary to cut down the time of the men.

**CELEBRATION WILL BE AN ELABORATE AFFAIR.**  
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Staunton, Va., February 20.—William B. McCheney, of this city, recently elected grand master of Masons in Virginia, speaking of the celebration of George Washington's anniversary at Alexandria on next Tuesday by the lodge of which McCheney was a member and named in his honor, says the celebration this year will be more elaborate than usual. Steps will be taken on this occasion to mature plans for a great memorial temple to be built at Alexandria in Washington's honor, and distinguished Masons from all over the country have signified their assent to be present and counsel with the Alexandria grand master of Virginia and other State grand officials will be present and take part in the celebration ceremonies.

The new temple when built will house the precious paintings and relics of Washington, which have a money value of several hundred thousand dollars, now in the possession of the lodge.

**Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA**

**Wood's Early Ohio Seed Potatoes**

are being planted in increasing quantities each year by the largest and most successful market-growers. This variety makes uniformly large sized potatoes, of excellent shipping, market and table qualities, and is proving to be one of the most profitable and reliable of early-cropping potatoes.

We are headquarters for the best

**Maine-grown Seed Second Crop Northern-grown Potatoes**

Wood's 30th Annual Seed Book gives full descriptions and information, with the highest testimonials from successful growers as to the superiority of Wood's Seed Potatoes.

Write for prices and Wood's Seed Book, which will be mailed free on request.

**T. W. WOOD & SONS, Seedsmen, Richmond, Va.**

**DISTRICTS ARE FAVORING LOCAL SCHOOL TAXES**

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Newbern, N. C., February 20.—Local taxes for schools seem to be "taking" in this county. Until about two years ago there was only one local tax district. At the beginning of this year

For asking so many questions about Wood before placing your order. I know you were disappointed with the last load, and are trying to avoid getting another. My regular customers hardly ever ask me price or quality of Wood; only ask, "When can I get it delivered?" because they know I am as low or lower than the lowest reputable dealer. I have been a specialist in Wood that heats while it burns over twelve years.

My Coal makes a lasting impression on housekeepers because it only makes ashes.

I have more Wood, sell more Wood, prepared in more ways. Why not try The Leader?

Phone Madison 1069 and 1070.

Highland Park Phone, Monroe 1320.

**The Wood Man**

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